



# **Wisconsin Elections Commission**

**2020 April and Presidential  
Preference Election**

**March 11, 2020**

**2020 April and Presidential Preference Election**

# Agenda

- **Presidential Preference & Spring Election Ballot**
- **Type C Notice**
- **Type D Notice**
- **Spoiling Ballots Prior to Election Day**
- **Sufficient/Insufficient Certificate Envelopes**
- **A and B Ballots Prep & Processing**
- **Counting Write-In Votes**
- **Breaking a Tie Vote**
- **Recounts**
- **Things to consider...**

## Agenda

# Presidential Preference & Spring Election Ballot



- ▶ Candidates who have ended their campaigns remain on the ballot
- ▶ Can clerks/election inspectors inform voters which candidates have ended their campaigns?
- ▶ Presidential Preference Vote
- ▶ Nonpartisan contests and local referenda

**Presidential Preference Vote**

Choose a party in which to vote.

Complete the arrow next to your party choice, like this: ←

Choose only 1.

Democratic	←	■
Republican	←	■

## Presidential Preference Ballot & Spring Election Ballot

# Type C Notice of Referendum



- ▶ Statewide Referendum on the ballot relating to the rights of crime victims.
- ▶ The Type C Notice of Referendum must be published on April 6, 2020 or closest issue if weekly newspaper is used.
- ▶ Voters who ask the effect of a “yes” or “no” vote on the referendum should be directed to the posted Type C Notice.

## SAMPLE TYPE C NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

**NOTICE OF REFERENDUM**  
(insert proper jurisdiction)  
(insert date of referendum election)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in (the) (insert the proper phrase here). For a statewide referendum insert: several towns, villages, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin. For a county, town, village, city, or school district referendum insert: the title and name of the jurisdiction, such as County of (name), ON (insert date of election), (the following proposed) (insert amendment to the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin, or Resolution of the County Board, Town Board, Village Board, City Council, or School District Board of Education), Will Be submitted to a vote of the people.

## Type C Notice of Referendum

# Type D Notice



- ▶ Notice of Hours and Locations of Polling Places
- ▶ The Type D Notice must be published the day before the election or in the closest issue if weekly newspaper is used.
- ▶ Should also provide a public notice of the meeting of the LBOC and MBOC, if required.

## SAMPLE TYPE D NOTICE OF LOCATION AND HOURS OF POLLING PLACES

### LOCATION AND HOURS OF POLLING PLACE

At the (election or primary) to be held on (insert date of primary or date of election), in the (Town, Village, City, or School District) of (insert name of jurisdiction), the following polling place locations will be used for the wards indicated:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Wards</u>
(insert name of building and address)	(insert ward or ward numbers)
(insert name of building and address)	(insert ward or ward numbers)
(insert name of building and address)	(insert ward or ward numbers)

ALL POLLING PLACES WILL OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. AND WILL CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.

## Type D Notice

## **Spoiling Ballots Prior to Election Day**



- ▶ Absentee voters can request to spoil their absentee ballot and have another issued, up to three ballots, by the appropriate request deadlines.
- ▶ For a ballot by mail, the voter has until 5 pm the Thursday before the election to spoil and request another ballot by mail.
- ▶ In-person absentee voters have until the in-person absentee voting deadline in their clerk's office to request another ballot. It could be up until the Sunday before the election, but depends on the clerk's voting hours.
- ▶ Absentee voters may not spoil their absentee ballot at the polling place and vote on Election Day.

## **Spoiling Ballots Prior to Election Day**

# Sufficient/Insufficient Certificate Envelopes



- ▶ What constitutes a sufficient certificate envelope?
  - The envelope is unopened
  - The envelope has not been opened and resealed
  - The voter's signature appears on the certificate
  - The certificate is signed by a witness who is an adult U.S. citizen and includes the witness's address
- ▶ What is an insufficient certificate envelope?
  - Envelopes missing the voter signature
  - Envelopes missing the witness signature and/or address
  - Envelopes that may have been opened and resealed
- ▶ What is *not* considered an insufficient certificate envelope?
  - Envelopes missing the clerk's initials (note omission on inspectors' statement)
  - Envelopes missing the date of signing next to the voter's signature

## Sufficient/Insufficient Certificate Envelopes

## **'A' and 'B' Ballots**

- ▶ Preparing ballots for delivery to the polls
  - Separate 'A' ballots from 'B' ballots
    - Military and Temporarily Overseas
    - Permanently Overseas
  - Further Separate
    - Sufficient Certificate Envelopes
    - Insufficient Certificate Envelopes
  - Results in four stacks of envelopes
    1. 'A' ballots of military and Temp Overseas – Sufficient certifications
    2. 'A' ballots of Military and Temp Overseas – Insufficient certifications.
    3. 'A' ballots of Permanently Overseas – Sufficient certifications
    4. 'A' ballots of Permanently Overseas – Insufficient certifications
  - Alphabetize each stack.

## **'A' and 'B' Ballots**

## **'A' and 'B' Ballots (Cont.)**

- ▶ Preparing ballots for delivery to the polls
  - 'Separate 'B' Ballots into two stacks
    - 'B' ballots of military and Temp Overseas – Sufficient certifications
    - 'B' ballots of Military and Temp Overseas – Insufficient certifications.
  - Alphabetize each stack

## **'A' and 'B' Ballots**

## **Processing Instructions**

- ▶ Process the following ballots during the day
  - 'A' ballots of Permanently Overseas – Sufficient certifications
  - 'B' ballots of Military and Temporarily Overseas – Sufficient certifications

## **Processing Instructions**

## Processing Instructions (Cont.)

- ▶ Hold the following ballots until after 8 pm
  - 'A' ballots of Military and Temp Overseas voters who have not returned a sufficient 'B' ballot
    - If the 'A' ballot is Insufficient
      - The voter may repair an insufficient 'A' certification on Election Day
      - The 'B' ballot may be submitted on Election Day or voted at the polling place
    - If the 'A' ballot is Sufficient
      - The 'B' ballot may be submitted on Election Day or voted at the polling place
      - If the 'B' ballot is submitted but insufficient, the 'A' ballot may be counted

## Processing Instructions

## Processing Instructions (Cont.)

- ▶ Hold the following ballots until after 8 pm (con't)
  - 'A' ballots of Permanent Overseas voters – Insufficient certificate envelopes
    - Voters may repair the certificate envelope on Election Day
  - 'B' ballots – Insufficient certificate envelopes
    - Voters may repair the certificate envelope on Election Day
- ▶ Documentation
  - Absentee Ballot Log
  - Inspectors' Statement (EL-104)

## Processing Instructions

# Counting Votes



Registered Write-in Candidates  
Fanny Hill

Village Trustee  
Vote for 1

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Ballot instructions

Registered Write-in Candidates  
Izzy Serton

School Board Member  
Vote for not more than  
3

Wanda Round  
 Rob R. Barron

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Ballot instructions

## Counting Votes

## Breaking a Tie in a Municipal Contest

- ▶ A tie vote in a municipal contest is broken by the MBOC.
- ▶ The tie is broken by a method that results in a random outcome.
  - Flip a coin, draw names out of hat, etc.
  - Document procedure
- ▶ If all candidates are present, they may draw for themselves.
- ▶ When a municipal referendum ties, the referendum fails. No need to break tie.



## Breaking a Tie in a Municipal Contest

## Recounts

- ▶ Who may request a recount?
- ▶ How is a recount requested?
- ▶ What is a recount petition?
- ▶ When is a filing fee required?
- ▶ Where is the recount filed?
- ▶ When must the petition be filed?
- ▶ Review Recount Manual:  
<https://elections.wi.gov/manuals/recount>

## Recounts

## Things to Consider...

- ▶ There should be no political discussions in the polling place. Election officials may also not engage in political discussions outside of the polling place on Election Day.
- ▶ If you have strong sentiments about candidates, or if you disagree with state law or court decisions, your personal opinions must not be communicated in any way to voters or to other election inspectors.
- ▶ It is the opinion of the Commission that election inspectors may not serve at elections where they, their spouse or immediate family member is a candidate or where a candidate's success or failure to win an election would affect the election inspector financially.

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**Things to Consider...**



# Questions?

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# Thank You!

Questions?

Email: [elections@wi.gov](mailto:elections@wi.gov)

Elections Helpdesk: 608-261-2028

Thank You!